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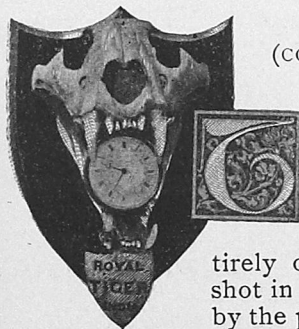
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A CURIOUS AND INTERESTING "FAD" IN FURNITURE.



(COMPLETION.)

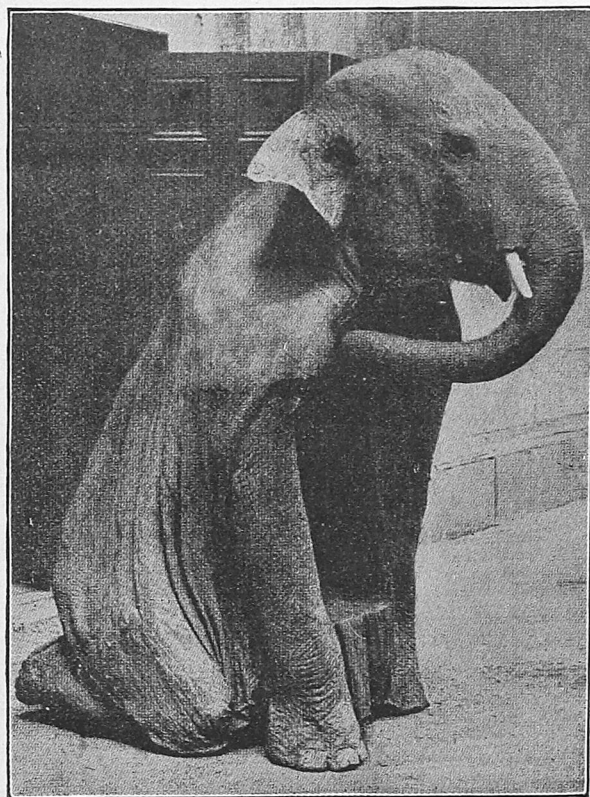
THE novel hat-stand, which adorns the entrance-hall at Langley Park, Slough, the beautiful seat of Sir Robert Harvey, Bart., consists entirely of horns selected from stags shot in Invermark Forest, Forfarshire, by the present baronet and his father, during a ten years' tenancy. The design is copied from one originally designed by Sir Edwin Landseer. Mention of this great artist brings us to another item of "animal" furniture—Landseer's "otter" chair. Surrounding the chair are some heads—those of a favorite dog, a Scotch stag, a wild Chillingham bull, and an American bison—the three last shot by the painter himself. Landseer always admired otter skins, so a friend one day presented him with several very fine ones. These were subsequently spread on the chair by Mr. Butt, the head of the largest otter hanging down over the back in accordance with Landseer's own design.

In the house of a big game hunter you will come across all sorts of trophies, doing duty in various capacities. Here we see the leg of an ostrich mounted as a door-stop. Stranger still, we next behold the foot of a big elephant fashioned into a liquor stand, so that it may be placed on the table in the midst of a group in reminiscent mood, Nimrods who may, perchance, be fighting their battles over again. This is one of Mr. Rowland Ward's registered designs. The foot is that of an Indian elephant—a magnificent beast—shot by the then Duke of Edinburgh, during a well-known tour.

Very large elephant feet, by the way, are coveted trophies, and are, moreover, interesting indications of the height of their late possessor, twice the circumference of the forefoot giving the height of the elephant at the shoulder. Strictly speaking, though, this rule applies more particularly to the Indian species.



TABLE ORNAMENT MADE FROM TUSKS OF INDIAN WILD BOARS.



SMALL ELEPHANT MADE INTO A HALL PORTER'S CHAIR.

Not the least interesting among the items of "animal" furniture that have come under my notice was a certain letter-box in a country house. The top part consisted of the skull of a once-notorious leopard, which had decimated great herds of cattle in its day, and required a vast deal of killing. Record skulls of lions, tigers, and leopards are very frequently seen mounted as useful objects in the country houses of wealthy hunters. Here, for instance, is a hall-clock firmly grasped between the jaws of a tiger which killed at least five unlucky Hindu gun-bearers, whose cowardice cost them their lives. The illustration of this interesting trophy is shown at the head of this article.

The elephant here shown is not exactly a "cosy corner," but he forms quite a unique hall-porter's chair; at the same time, it would be somewhat invidious to speak of the thing as an "elephantine hall-porter's chair"—even though in some cases the description might be peculiarly appropriate. This accommodating animal is a young Ceylon elephant, modeled by Rowland Ward in a perfectly natural position, but adapted for the use of the hall porter. The hall porter asleep in this singular chair, by the way, should make an interesting picture.

Another noteworthy design is a beautiful table ornament, made from the tusks of Indian wild boars by Mr. Butt, of Wigmore Street. In this case, the tusks were forwarded by the adjutant of a crack regiment stationed in the North-West Provinces. The officers of that regiment had indulged extensively in the noble pastime of pig-sticking, and had carefully preserved the boars' tusks with the view of having them fashioned into some useful and handsome ornament which might adorn the mess table, and serve (almost literally) as a peg on which to hang many an exciting story.

A capital specimen of Mr. Butt's artistic work is a bear set up as a dumb-waiter, carrying in one hand, or rather paw, an electric lamp with frosted globe.